



U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/026,823
Amendment filed November 16, 2006
Reply to OA dated August 18, 2006

CLAIMS CURRENTLY PENDING:

Listing of Claims:

1 Claim 1 (previously presented): A color-designating server which displays a screen for
2 designating color at a user terminal, which can be connected to a network, the color-designating
3 server comprising:

4 a matchable color database which stores data required for determining matchable colors;

5 a conditions-designating processing unit which transmits a conditions-designating screen for
6 designating conditions data, required for determining the matchable colors, to the user terminal;

7 a color data transmitting unit which determines colors which can be matched under the
8 conditions specified by the conditions data, designated in the conditions-designating screen, by
9 consulting the matchable color database, and transmits a result to the user terminal; and

10 a customer database which stores user information, comprising user ID for specifying users
11 of the color-designating server, and use information including requirements relating to items to be
12 colored predetermined in correlation with user ID, and types of resin and dye or pigment which can
13 be used for the requirements;

14 wherein, when the user has been identified, the conditions-designating processing unit
15 transmits the conditions-designating screen to the user terminal;

16 the conditions-designating screen displays the requirements and the types of resin and dye

17 or pigment, which are stored in the customer database in correlation with the identified user, so that
18 the user can designate conditions data from the requirements and the types of resin and dye or
19 pigment displayed on the conditions-designating screen; and

20 the color-designating server further comprises a use data receiving unit which receives, from
21 the user terminal, the conditions data designated by the user.

1 Claim 2 (original): The color-designating server according to Claim 1, wherein the data
2 required for determining the matchable colors comprises at least the type of resin, the type of dye or
3 pigment, and the ratio when matching them.

1 Claim 3 (original): The color-designating server according to Claim 1, wherein the color
2 data transmitting unit provides a color gamut, comprising a region of colors which can be matched
3 from the matchable colors, in a color space, and transmits data for displaying a color-designating
4 screen for enabling colors to be designated in the color gamut to the user terminal.

1 Claim 4 (original): The color-designating server according to Claim 1, wherein the
2 matchable color database further stores basic color data relating to a plurality of basic colors,
3 determined by combining resins and dyes or pigments; and

4 the color data transmitting unit determines a color gamut, comprising a region of matchable
5 colors which can be matched from the basic colors under the conditions determined by the conditions

6 data, by consulting the matchable color database, and transmits the result to the user terminal.

1 Claim 5 (original): The color-designating server according to Claim 1, wherein the
2 matchable color database further stores color sample data relating to colors of color samples; and
3 the color data transmission unit determines color samples which can be matched under the
4 conditions, determined by the conditions data, by consulting the matchable color database, and
5 transmits the result to the user terminal.

1 Claim 6 (original): The color-designating server according to Claim 1, further comprising
2 a color data receiving unit which receives color data relating to a color which was designated from
3 the matchable colors;
4 an arrangement calculating unit which calculates an arrangement ratio of resins and dyes or
5 pigments based the received color data; and
6 an arrangement result transmitting unit which transmits arrangement result data, output from
7 the arrangement calculating unit, to the user terminal.

Claims 7-9 (canceled).

1 Claim 10 (original): The color-designating server according to Claim 1, further comprising
2 a virtual item coloring processing unit which displays a virtual item conforming to actual
3 requirements in two-dimensions or three-dimensions in the color-designating screen, colors the
4 virtual item in the color which has been designated from the matchable colors, and allows the color
5 to be confirmed.

1 Claim 11 (original): The color-designating server according to Claim 1, further comprising
2 a cost-calculating unit which calculates a cost based on data relating to resins and dyes or pigments
3 which is determined uniquely by arrangement result data, output by the arrangement calculation
4 processing unit;
5 the arrangement result unit transmitting the arrangement result data including cost data.

1 Claim 12 (previously presented): A color-designating receiving/ordering system comprising
2 at least a color-designating server which displays a screen for designating color at a user terminal,
3 which can be connected to a network, and a receive-order system which receives order data, received
4 from the user terminal by the color-designating server,
5 the color-designating server comprising:
6 a matchable color database which stores data required for determining matchable colors;
7 a conditions-designating processing unit which transmits a conditions-designating screen for
8 designating conditions data, required for determining the matchable colors, to the user terminal; and

9 a color data transmitting unit which determines colors which can be matched under the
10 conditions specified by the conditions data, designated in the conditions-designating screen, by
11 consulting the matchable color database, and transmits a result to the user terminal;

12 a receiving unit which, when a color has been designated from the matchable colors, and a
13 product in the color has been designated, receives designated product data for specifying the color
14 and the product, and order data, from the user terminal;

15 a transmitting unit which transmits the designated product data and the order data to the
16 receive-order system;

17 the receive-order system comprising a receive-order unit which performs receive-order
18 processing based on the order data, which has been received;

19 a customer database which stores user information, comprising user ID for specifying users
20 of the color-designating server, and use information including requirements relating to items to be
21 colored predetermined in correlation with user ID, and types of resin and dye or pigment which can
22 be used for the requirements; and

23 wherein, when the user has been identified, the conditions-designating processing unit
24 transmits the conditions-designating screen to the user terminal;

25 the conditions-designating screen displays the requirements and the types of resin and dye
26 or pigment, which are stored in the customer database in correlation with the identified user, so that
27 the user can designate conditions data from the requirements and the types of resin and dye or

28 pigment displayed on the conditions-designating screen; and

29 the color-designating server further comprises a use data receiving unit which receives, from
30 the user terminal, the conditions data designated by the user.

1 Claim 13 (original): The color-designating receiving/ordering system according to Claim
2 12, further comprising a distribution system which manages the stock number of the products;
3 the color-designating server further comprising an available stock confirming unit which
4 extracts stock data of a product corresponding to the designated product data from the distribution
5 system, and determines whether it can be ordered; and
6 a transmitting unit which transmits the result of the determination to the user terminal.

1 Claim 14 (original): The color-designating receiving/ordering system according to Claim
2 12, further comprising an account system which manages data relating to the cost of the product; and
3 the color-designating server further comprising a price supplying unit which extracts current
4 price data of materials used in a product, which has been specified in the product-product data, from
5 the account system, and supplies a price of the product reflecting the current price to the user
6 terminal.

1 Claim 15 (original): The color-designating receiving/ordering system according to Claim
2 12, further comprising a manufacturing system which receives receive-order data from the receive-
3 order system, and manufactures a product based on the receive-order data.

1 Claim 16 (previously presented): A color-designating method which displays a screen for
2 designating color at a user terminal, which can be connected to a network, the color-designating
3 method comprising the steps of:

4 specifying users of the color-designating server by accessing a customer database which
5 stores user information, comprising user ID for specifying users of the color-designating server, and
6 use information including requirements relating to items to be colored, predetermined in correlation
7 with the user ID, and types of resin and dye or pigment which can be used for the requirements;

8 when the user has been identified, transmitting a conditions-designating screen for
9 designating conditions data, required for determining matchable colors, to the user terminal,

10 the conditions-designating screen displays the requirements and the types of resin and dye
11 or pigment, which are stored in the customer data base in correlation with the identified user, so that
12 the user can designate conditions data from the requirements and the types of resin and dye or
13 pigment displayed on the conditions-designating screen; and

14 determining colors which can be matched under the conditions specified by the conditions
15 data, designated in the conditions-designating screen, by consulting a matchable color database, and
16 transmitting the result to the user terminal.

1 Claim 17 (previously presented): The color-designating method according to Claim 16,
2 wherein the step of determining colors comprises providing a color gamut, comprising a region of
3 colors which can be matched from the matchable colors, in a color space, and transmitting data for
4 displaying a color-designating screen for enabling colors to be designated in the color gamut to the
5 user terminal.

1 Claim 18 (previously presented): A color-designating receiving/ordering method using
2 a color-designating server which displays a screen for designating color at a user terminal, which can
3 be connected to a network, and a receive-order system which receives order data, received from the
4 user terminal by the color-designating server, the color-designating receiving/ordering method
5 comprising the steps of:

6 specifying users of the color-designating server by accessing a customer database which
7 stores user information, comprising user ID for specifying users of the color-designating server, and
8 use information including requirements relating to items to be colored, predetermined in correlation
9 with the user ID, and types of resin and dye or pigment which can be used for the requirements;

10 when the user has been identified, transmitting by the color-designating server a conditions-
11 designating screen for designating conditions data, required for determining matchable colors, to the
12 user terminal,

13 the conditions-designating screen specifying the requirements and the types of resin and dye

14 or pigment which are stored in the customer data base in correlation with an identified user and were
15 obtained by consulting the customer database;

16 the conditions-designating screen displays the requirements and the types of resin and dye
17 or pigment, which are stored in the customer database in correlation with the identified user, so that
18 the user can designate conditions data from the requirements and the types of resin and dye or
19 pigment displayed on the conditions-designating screen; and

20 when a color has been designated from the matchable colors, and a product in the color has
21 been designated, the color-designating server receiving designated product data for specifying the
22 color and the product, and order data, from the user terminal;

23 the color-designating server transmitting the designated product data and the order data to
24 the receive-order system; and

25 the receive-order system performing receive-order processing based on the order data, which
26 has been received.

1 Claim 19 (previously presented): A computer-readable recording medium, which a program
2 of color-designating method for displaying a screen for designating color at a user terminal, which
3 can be connected to a network, is recorded in, the program comprising the steps of:

4 specifying users of the color-designating server by accessing a customer database which
5 stores user information, comprising user ID for specifying users of the color-designating server, and
6 use information including requirements relating to items to be colored, predetermined in correlation

7 with the user ID, and types of resin and dye or pigment which can be used for the requirements;

8 when the user has been identified, transmitting a conditions-designating screen for
9 designating conditions data, required for determining matchable colors, to the user terminal,

10 the conditions-designating screen displays the requirements and the types of resin and dye
11 or pigment, which are stored in the customer database in correlation with the identified user, so that
12 the user can designate conditions data from the requirements and the types of resin and dye or
13 pigment displayed on the conditions-designating screen; and

14 determining colors which can be matched under the conditions specified by the conditions
15 data, designated in the conditions-designating screen, by consulting a matchable color database, and
16 transmitting the result to the user terminal.

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